

#/ 3623

APR 07 2003

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**  
(General - Patent Pending)Docket No.  
97-059-1-C1In Re Application of: **WALKER et al.**Serial No.  
09/654,341Filing Date  
September 8, 2000Examiner  
Romain JeantyGroup Art Unit  
3623Title: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING AND PROCESSING INSTALLMENT PLANS A  
TERMINAL**TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is:

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (6 pp.);  
PTO Form-1449 (3 pp.) and references cited therein (26); and  
Return Receipt Postcard.

in the above identified application.

- ☐ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- ☒ The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. **50-0271**  
as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ Charge the amount of **\$180.00**
- ☒ Credit any overpayment.
- ☒ Charge any additional fee required.

  
SignatureDated: **April 2, 2003**

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Customer No. 22927

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I certify that this document and fee is being deposited  
on **April 2, 2003** with the U.S. Postal Service as  
first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C.  
20231.

  
Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence**Michael D. Brinton**

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

) Examiner: Romain Jeanty


) Group Art Unit: 3623

Attorney Docket No: 97-059-1-C1

Customer No.: 22927



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as priority mail in an envelope with sufficient postage and addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 2, 2003.

  
Michael D. Brinton

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a thorough search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. Nor

shall the filing of this information disclosure statement be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. ☐ Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the pending U.S. patent applications listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider and independently ascertain the teachings and relevance of those applications with respect to the instant application. Applicants would be pleased to provide the Examiner with a copy of these applications upon request.
2. ☐ For each of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a European Search Report from a counterpart European application is enclosed. Such items are marked as reference letter(s): \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ For each of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application. Such items are marked as reference letter(s): \_\_\_\_\_.
4. ☐ No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:  
  
☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.

- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491.
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
5. ☐ No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.
6. ☒ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action). The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is to be paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.
7. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance, but before the payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:
- a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and
  - b. this document is to be considered as a petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement.
  - c. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

8. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition to Withdraw Application from Issue;

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition to Withdraw Application from Issue.

9. ☐ I hereby certify:

☐ that each item of information contained in the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of such communication is enclosed.

☐ that no item of information contained or listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

10. ☒ Please accept payment of the fees due as indicated below:

☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0271 in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

11. ☒ In addition to the citations listed above, applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the following U.S. patent applications, which are commonly assigned to the assignee of the instant application, and which may be deemed pertinent to the instant application:

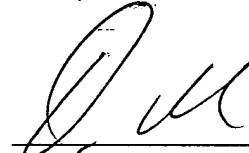
<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Inventors</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Group Art Unit</u>	<u>Examiner's Init.</u>
09/045,036	Walker et al.	03/20/98	3642	
09/045,386	Walker et al.	03/21/98	2786	
09/045,518	Van Luchene	03/20/98	3642	
09/107,971	Van Luchene	06/30/98	3642	

The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider and independently ascertain the teachings and relevance of those applications with respect to the instant application. These applications have not been listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 in order to preserve their secrecy during the course of their prosecution.

12. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0271. A copy of this authorization is attached.
13. [ ] No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination.

Respectfully submitted,

April 2, 2003  
Date



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